

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, submitted herewith are copies of the art cited in the corresponding German application.

The presentation of these documents is made solely for the purpose of giving the Patent and Trademark Office Examiner an opportunity to make an independent review of the disclosure of the present application in the course of his examination. No representation of any nature is made or intended by this presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Felix 1. D'Ambrosio

Reg. No. 25,721

September 6, 2001

JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C. P.O. Box 2266 Eads Station Arlington, Virginia 22202 (703) 415-1500

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Information Disclosure Statement - Section 9 PTO-1449 (Page 1 of 1)